



**Regular Meeting of the
Niagara Falls Water Board**

For

**July 17, 2008 5:30 PM at
Michael C. O’Laughlin Municipal Water Plant**

1. Call to Order: *Mike McNally called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.*

a. Roll Call:

Campbell P Marchelos P Morreale P Vitello P McNally P

2. Letters and Communications

a. Public Speakers: (All speakers must register with Chairman prior to Roll Call and are limited to 5 minutes per person – total minutes not to exceed 1 hour)

Mr. Bryant –

- Owner of 1117 South Ave protesting is water bill. His water meter had been removed and is now receiving an availability charge of \$30.00 a quarter. He believes this is an unjust charge as he is not using any water. The Director explained that the charge was for access to the water mains in the street for fire protection, and for the repair of his service line, should it break.*
- The speaker also mentioned that a sidewalk flag on this property was replaced with black top and should have been concrete. His name and address was taken down for further investigation regarding the sidewalk condition.*

Joe LaGamba –

- Concerned about the increase use of part time employees and would like to remind the Board before they consider any new hires that we still have employees that had been laid off.*
- Would like to start having meetings pertaining to labor and management issues again.*
- Would like to make the Board aware that if they make amendments to the exempt employee’s contracts they should also be able to have wage re-opened for union contracts.*

b. Presentations:

c. Other

3. Items for Action

a. Routine Items

1. Approval of Minutes from June 19, 2008 meeting.

Motion to approve by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale to approve minutes. Motion was carried 4-0. 1 abstained

Campbell __abstain__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

2. Personnel Actions - None

3. Bid Approvals - None

b. From the Executive Director

1. Item#1 - Request to approve the Second Amendment to the Operations Agreement – Revised

Motion to table by Marchelos and seconded by Campbell for further changes to be made by Tom O'Donnell. Motion was carried 5-0.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

2. Item #2 – Request to approve the WWTP Actuator Standardization item – Revised

Motion to approve by Morreale and seconded by Vitello. Motion was carried 5-0.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

3. Item #3 - Request to approve the Sidewalk Construction Contract Award.

Motion to approve by Vitello and seconded by Campbell. Motion was carried 5-0.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

4. Item#4 – Request to approve Exempt Employee Contract Addendums – Revised.

Motion to approve by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale for Bill Bolents.

Vitello stated he was not happy about proposal. As a Board we have agreed to a 0 % rate increase this year. The exempts receive a 22 % salary increase when exempt jobs were formed. The union received no increase in their CBA from 2004-2007. Sick day

carry over for exempts was increased from 30-60 days. They have the same medical benefits as the unions. They haven't lost any numbers in their workforce and we as a Board have a fiduciary responsibility to the rate payers to not consider these raises at this time.

Marchelos (response) I am in favor of the raises. Most of what I know about this issue came from the newspaper and however ungraceful or untimely it may have been it was meant to bring Management salaries in line with industry standards and stood on its own merit. There have been no raises since establishment of positions which is inequitable. We as a board also have a fiduciary responsibility to the employees as wells as the rate payers. On the other points benefits is a different issue and going forward exempt staffing may change down the road.

Vitello (response) came in today, foyer is muddy and dirty. Drove by the Wastewater plant and its overgrown.

Marchelos (response) not a reason to not give raises.

Question was then called by the Chairman and the Motion carried 4-1.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __N__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

Motion to approve by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale for Gerald Grose. Motion was carries 4-1.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __N__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

Motion to approve by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale for Patricia Haick. Motion was carried 4-1.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __N__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

Motion to approve by McNally and seconded by Morreale for Michael Kessler. Motion was carried 4-1.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __N__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

Motion to approve by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale for Richard Roll. Motion was carried 5-0.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__

4. Informational Items and Reports

- a. **Bank Transfer Activity**
- b. **Cash Disbursements**
- c. **Schedule of Investments**
- d. **O& M Report**
- e. **Claims Status Report (Quarterly) - CONFIDENTIAL**
- f. **Litigation Status Report (Quarterly) - CONFIDENTIAL**
- g. **2008 Continuing Disclosure Report**

Marchelos requested that someone present an overview of the O&M report for the next meeting.

5. Unfinished Business

6. New Business & Additional Items for Water Board Discussion

7. Adjournment of Meeting

Motion to adjourn by Marchelos and seconded by Morreale at 5:55 p.m. Motion was carried 5-0.

Campbell __Y__ Vitello __Y__ McNally __Y__ Morreale __Y__ Marchelos __Y__